

Procure-to-Pay Capability Summary

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SUBJECT: FedBizOpps Transition to beta.SAM.gov

BACKGROUND: FedBizOpps (FBO) has been designed as a single point of entry for Federal buyers to publish and for vendors to find posted Federal business opportunities across departments and agencies. FBO is managed by the General Services Administration (GSA) as part of the Integrated Award Environment (IAE), a suite of systems that supports contracting federal-wide. FBO is in the process of transitioning to become part of beta.SAM.gov, which will eventually update and replace the legacy System for Award Management (SAM). After the transition, the capabilities in FBO will be known as the “Opportunities” module of beta.SAM.gov. User testing and training on the new site are underway; role migration is scheduled to begin in Q4FY19. The existing FBO site is targeted for decommissioning in Q1FY20, after which time beta.SAM.gov will become the authoritative source for government-wide business opportunities. FedBizOpps data is currently available for search via beta.SAM.gov. Users of FBO will be notified when the system is converting to beta.SAM.gov. Users should keep their user names, passwords, and roles up to date to be prepared for transition. Those organizations using FBO interfaces APIs will need to convert over to beta.SAM.gov.

POLICY: Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) 5.003 requires that contract opportunities and award information be posted to the “government-wide point of entry,” which is FedBizOpps.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE: The FedBizOpps website is <https://www.fbo.gov/>. Agencies may manually enter opportunities or award notices via the website, or can set up system-to-system interfaces to push notices to the site. Companies can use the website to search for opportunities or view award notices, and may utilize tools to join interested vendor lists or set standard searches where results can be automatically emailed from the system.

DATA STANDARDS: In addition to the ability to interact directly with the FBO system via its web interface, FBO provides an easy data exchange interface between FBO and each buyer agency's electronic contract writing system. Even though FBO accommodates buyer submissions using different Internet protocols (SMTP, FTP, HTTP, API) for communications, it employs a standard data exchange protocol, which was developed in accordance with the FAR – see Subpart 5.2, Synopses of Proposed Contract Actions. The data exchange protocol is based on a set of formatted, tagged document templates, each of which represents a specific type of acquisition transaction. FBO supports fifteen document types, including templates for Pre-Solicitation/Synopsis, Sources Sought, Award Notice, and Justification and Approvals.

IMPACT: FBO replaced the legacy “Commerce Business Daily” website and newspaper in 2001 and has enabled much greater visibility into these opportunities for potential government contractors, spurring improved competition in contracting.

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More information can be found at <https://beta.sam.gov/help/new-to-sam>